

ULTRASONIC IMAGING DEVICE, SYSTEM AND METHOD OF USE

ABSTRACT

1 An ultrasonic probe comprises an elongate structure
2 having a longitudinal axis; a first array of ultrasonic
3 transducer elements extending along an outer surface of
4 the elongate structure in a direction generally parallel
5 to the longitudinal axis; a second array of ultrasonic
6 transducer elements extending along the outer surface of
7 the elongate structure in a direction generally parallel
8 to the longitudinal axis; and a third array of ultrasonic
9 transducer elements extending about the elongate
10 structure in a direction so that it images a plane
11 perpendicular to that imaged by at least one of the first
12 array and the second array, the third array being
13 disposed in a space between the first array and the
14 second array. An electronics module for use with the
15 probe, and an additional probe, to produce internal
16 images of a patient.